

# IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



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## Idaho's Potato Acreage Decreases 7 Percent from 2004

Planted acreage for potatoes in Idaho is estimated to be 330,000 acres, down 7 percent from 2004's 355,000 acres, and 8 percent below the 360,000 acres planted two years ago, according to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service. This is the lowest planted acreage for Idaho since 1986. Harvested acreage is expected to total 328,000 acres, a decrease of 25,000 acres from last year. Idaho's expected winter wheat production is 67.2 million bushels, up 7 percent from last year. Harvested acreage of winter wheat is expected to total 730,000 acres, 30,000 acres more than last year. Yield, as of July 1, is expected to be 92.0 bushels per acre, up from last year's 90.0 bushels per acre and if realized, a new record for the state. Producers with spring wheat are expected to harvest 450,000 acres, down 40,000 acres from 2004. Average yield is estimated at 80.0 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushels more than 2004. Spring wheat production is forecast at 36.0 million bushels, a decrease of 7 percent from 2004. Barley production is forecast at 56.1 million bushels, down 6 percent from last year's 59.8 million bushels. Harvested acreage, at 610,000 acres, is 40,000 acres less than last year. The expected yield of 92.0 bushels per acre is unchanged from last year. Oat production is expected to be 1.42 million bushels, down 1 percent from last year. Oat yield for grain is estimated at 71.0 bushels per acre, down from last year's 72.0 bushels per acre. Acreage harvested for grain is expected to total 20,000, unchanged from last year. Dry edible peas planted acreage is estimated to be 55,000 acres, down 4 percent from last year. Planted acreage for lentils is expected to total 65,000 acres, down 10 percent from 2004. Austrian winter peas planted acreage, at 14,000 acres, decreased 10 percent from a year ago. Peach production, estimated at 6,000 tons, is down 33 percent from last year's 9,000 tons.

For the United States, planted acreage for fall potatoes is 970,400 acres, down 7 percent from last year and 12 percent below 2003. Harvested acreage for fall potatoes is estimated at 955,700, down 7 percent from 2004 and 12 percent below two years ago. This is the lowest planted and harvested acres since 1957. Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.53 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last month but 2 percent above 2004. The U. S. yield is forecast at 44.5 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushels from the last month. Other spring wheat production is forecast at 589 million bushels, up 3 percent from 2004. Yield is forecast at 43.2 bushels per acre, unchanged from last years record high. Barley production is forecast at 243 million bushels, 13 percent below 2004. Yields are expected to average 70.0 bushels per acre, an increase of 0.6 bushels from last year. Oat production for grain is forecast at 131 million bushels, 13 percent above last year's 116 million bushels. The forecasted yield, at 66.5 bushels per acre, is up 1.8 bushels from last year. Planted acreage of dry edible peas is estimated at 804,000 acres, up 52 percent from 2004 and 138 percent above 2003. Planted acreage of lentils is estimated at 450,000 acres, up 30 percent from last year and 83 percent above 2003. Austrian winter peas planted acreage is expected to total 37,500 acres, up 23 percent from last year. The 2005 peach crop is forecast at 1.24 million tons, down 5 percent from 2004.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507.